

Life Directions to Mark 50 Years

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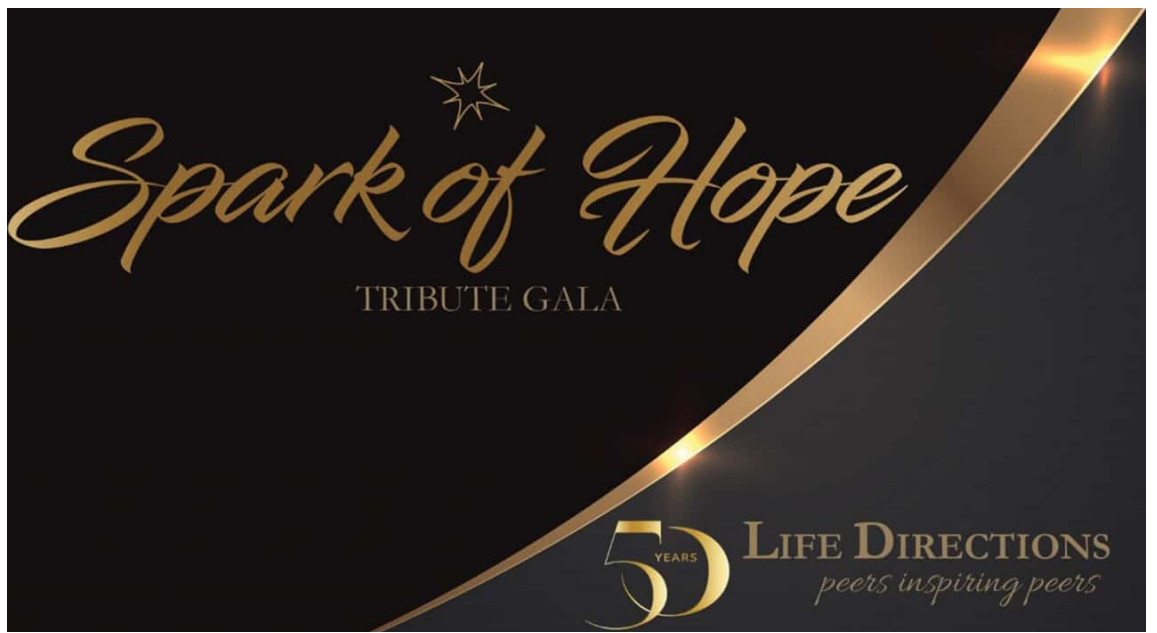
Helping teenagers and young adults between the ages of 13 to 35 to mature into responsible and productive adults is one of the main goals of Life Directions. They do this by emphasizing core values such as self-responsibility, relationship balance, partnership in diversity, and a mission-driven attitude. Through its programs, Life Directions has established a proven track record of success that benefits men and women throughout their lives.

The highly anticipated 50th Anniversary Gala will be led by Chairman Patrick A. Rugiero of Roman Village Cucina Italiana and Honorary Chairperson Ed Peper of General Motors Fleet. This year's gala will also pay tribute to Mary Kosch of Dearborn Sausage,

who will receive the 2023 Guiding Light Award, and the Hathaway Family, who will be honored with the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Spark of Hope Tribute Gala is happening on Saturday, May 6th, at One Campus Martius. Guests can look forward to an evening filled with community and empowerment, as well as delectable cuisine, exciting entertainment, and live and silent auctions. For more information, visit www.lifedirections.org or call 313-399-9531.

Amber Ogden is a freelance writer born and raised in Detroit. She has published work in Forbes, Chevy in the D, Model D, and Rachel Ray Every Day. She enjoys art and eating through the city in her free time.



Michigan Central Launches in Reimagined Book Depository

Michigan Central, the new 30-acre center advancing mobility-focused technologies, recently celebrated the official grand opening of Newlab Detroit's headquarters in the restored Book Depository building. The official launch of Michigan Central – the vision of Ford executive chairman Bill Ford – represents a major milestone toward creating a world-leading open platform to accelerate the development of breakthrough solutions at the intersection of mobility and society.

“Five years ago, we set out to create a place that would accelerate Detroit and our region’s role in solving the most pressing mobility challenges and change people’s lives for the better,” said Bill Ford, executive chair of Ford Motor Company. “With the opening of Newlab Detroit in the Book Depository, the first building completed in Michigan Central’s campus, that vision is becoming a reality. We see an opportunity to bring new companies and jobs to

Michigan, while also attracting the best and the brightest talent for our industry.”

Newlab at Michigan Central will create a center of gravity for startups, entrepreneurs, engineers and scientists to build breakthrough companies in Detroit. Building on its success in Brooklyn, Newlab is scaling its model of applied innovation to create the conditions for a sustainable high-tech startup ecosystem to take hold in the region.

Originally built as a post office and mail-sorting facility, and then used as the Detroit Public Schools’ Book Depository, this historic, 1936 Albert Kahn-designed Art Deco landmark is now a center of innovation and technology. Michigan Central collaborated with Newlab to reimagine the building as a 270,000-square-foot dynamic workplace with purpose-built labs to advance innovation.

Already, Newlab Detroit, has attracted more than 150 members from more than 25 companies, a third of which are led by founders who are

underrepresented in tech. Half of the companies are from the Detroit area, and the rest have come to Detroit from around the country and the world to join Newlab at Michigan Central. Collectively, the companies already located at Newlab have raised more than \$500 million in venture capital funding.

“Michigan Central is a first-of-its-kind open platform, underpinned by Ford’s commitment to help advance future technologies and skills. It will become a proving ground to drive new innovation across physical solutions, social and economic mobility,” said Joshua Sirefman, CEO of Michigan Central. “This is just the start for Michigan Central as we look to scale the attraction of more companies and investment from around the globe to make an impact here in Detroit and Michigan that will be felt across the world.”

Michigan Central’s Impact in Detroit

To lead as a trailblazer in mobility, Detroit must galvanize talent and capital to

build a world-class innovation ecosystem. Michigan Central is the platform catalyzing this transformation and supports Detroit’s evolution as a mobility tech center.

“Newlab at Michigan Central is essential to making Detroit the leading hub of global mobility innovation, and is a key platform for economic development in Michigan,” said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. “We are proud to bring key partners together to create good-paying jobs, revitalize Corktown, and create unparalleled opportunities in Detroit as we bring historic buildings back to life. With our economic momentum and powerful economic drivers like Michigan Central, we will lead the future of manufacturing, support entrepreneurs, and keep bringing jobs and supply chains home.”

“Detroit has long been the center of American innovation, and the launch of Newlab at Michigan Central builds upon that tradition,” said Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan. “Michigan Central will be

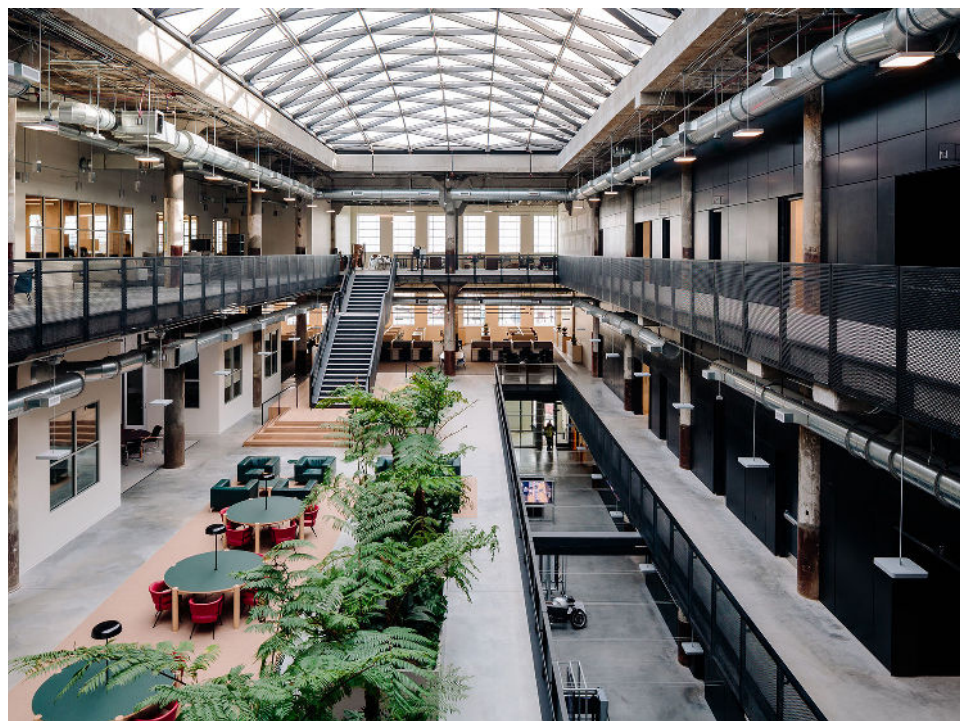
a tremendous economic development engine for Detroit, attracting and growing top mobility companies and entrepreneurs, locally and from around the world, to innovate and build their products right here.”

Projected to attract thousands of new jobs to Michigan Central, the campus will offer high-design innovation and collaborative workspace, residential, dozens of acres of green and open space for the community, and retail and hospitality.

Michigan Central also is committed to helping more Detroit residents and others gain skills they need to join the mobility workforce through Michigan Central’s Skills at the Seams program. Entry-, medium- and high-skill levels can learn through traditional classroom-style courses, internships and fellowships, apprenticeships, and other experiential learning opportunities.



Book depository skyview angle



Newlab at Michigan Central Interior

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4200 W. Vernor • Detroit, MI 48209 (313) 841-0100
info@elcentralmedia.com • elcentral1@aol.com • www.elcentralmedia.com

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